

## New-York Daily Tribune

FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1863.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

## THE WAR.

A gentleman direct from the army besieging Vicksburg has reached Cincinnati. He says: "Our army is sufficient to take the place. Gen. Grant's position as against Gen. Johnston is as strong as that of Gen. Pemberton against Gen. Grant. The indications multiply that the Rebel army in Vicksburg must shortly surrender. The first upon the city is very heavy and destructive. The Rebel reply to our fire is not heavy, and is ineffectual. Gen. Johnston is believed to be mainly employed in making preparations to defend the interior of Mississippi after the fall of Vicksburg. The Rebel spirit of resistance in the South-West is burning itself out in harassing but ineffectual warfare along the river." A private letter received at Washington, dated Vicksburg, 14th June, says that Grant was "All right," and had plenty of men, a large force of men were on transports ready to be landed at any point needed, and the army was in excellent spirits. The letter states that Grant has commenced to throw his shot into the devoted city.

It will be strange indeed if some of the English and Confederate pirates now playing havoc with our commercial marine are not soon captured. Every energy of the New-York, Boston, and Philadelphia Navy-Yards has been put to work to fit out a fleet that will literally sweep the seas. Among the steamers just chartered and to sail forthwith are the Atlantic, the Baltic, the Star of the South, the Shenandoah (corvette), the Howquah (corvette), and the bark Steamer Albatross. All these and many others will be in a day or two, and if vigilance can effect anything, we may indulge lively hopes of good news. Some of these steamers are very fast, and if they once sight a pirate it will be all up with him.

The *Leavenworth Times* of the 20th, says: "On last Wednesday night part of two companies of the Kansas 9th, about 70 men in all, while marching from Paola to Kansas City were fired on about four miles south-west of Westport, Mo., by about 150 Rebels in ambush. Our men lost 10 killed, and 17 wounded and missing. The Rebels are supposed to have been under the lead of Parker or Quantrill. The attack was very sudden, the enemy firing from behind a stone fence. Our troops fell back to Olathe, arriving there on Thursday morning."

A dispatch from Cape Cod, dated Thursday, says that the pirate Tacy has burned seventeen vessels since the 13th inst. A meeting of underwriters and merchants was held in Boston yesterday to take measures to capture the marauder. Secretary Welles telegraphed that the Government would accept and arm at once any vessels the merchants might offer, and commission such commanders as Commodore Montgomery might recommend.

On the night of the 23d a small party of Rebels surreptitiously burned the Quartermaster's buildings and wharf at Aquia Creek left standing by our troops. The only work there said not to have been burned was a small portion of the wharf. The valuable wharf and the buildings at the point near by, known as Urba Beach, were not harmed by them, being probably too near our gunboats.

The *Washington Star* says: Gen. Hunter is in Washington, having been ordered to report to the Adjutant-General of the Army. We hear that no dissatisfaction is felt at his administration of the post. His recent involvement no doubt of his energy, executive ability or patriotism.

The 11th New York Artillery left Rochester on the 24th for Harrisburg. The 21st New-York National Guard, 700 strong, was to leave Poughkeepsie last night for Baltimore. Gov. Yates of Illinois offers 10,000 men to repel invasion.

Brig.-Gen. Pleasanton has been made a Major-General by the President. He has worthily earned his honorable stars.

## GENERAL NEWS.

Our boys have again been at the railroad near Knoxville, Tenn. Col. Saunders with a small force, sent out by Gen. Burnside, has returned to Boston, Ky. He reports that he reached the railroad at Lenoir, about 20 miles west of Knoxville, made a demonstration against the latter place, and then started for Strawberry Plains, 10 or 12 miles east of Knoxville. He destroyed State Creek bridge, 312 feet long, Massey Creek bridge, 325 feet, and the 1,600 feet bridge at Strawberry Plains. He captured three pieces of artillery, 200 boxes of ammunition, 1,000 stands of arms and over 500 prisoners; destroyed a large amount of sugar, salt, flour, meal, molasses, one salt-peter factory and other stores. Finding the Rebels near at hand in strong force, he retired through Smith's gap in safety.

At a meeting of the Board of Aldermen yesterday, Ald. Boole, recently elected City Inspector, was invited by resolution to continue his relations with the Board until the expiration of the term for which he was elected, and participate in all the proceedings, but without the privilege of voting on any question. The Board adhered to its former action in granting a piece of land to the German Hospital, and in appropriating \$5,000 to the Home of the Good Shepherd, notwithstanding the objection of the Mayor. Later in the day, a special meeting was held, when the Board concurred with the Council in repealing the resolution passed some time ago authorizing the Harlem Railroad to lay tracks in Broadway and other streets. So ends the Broadway Railroad—for the present.

A later version of the tragical affair in Maine states that Grant and Knowles, the decoys, who shot McKenny, Chief of the Police of Belfast, on Sunday, while attempting to arrest them for horse-stealing, were discovered in the woods by three of the posse sent in search of them. The desperadoes resisted, and a bloody affair took place. Mr. Jenkins of Detroit, one of the posse, was instantly killed by a shot from a revolver in the hands of Grant, who also succeeded in seriously wounding another man. Grant was finally killed by blows from a knife, and Knowles was wounded beyond recovery. Chief-of-Police McKenny remains in a very critical condition.

A mock session of the Illinois Legislature was held on the 23d, with the view of legalizing the Vicksburg Railway, and testing the legality of the Governor's prorogation. The Democrats contended that the Assembly is still in session, having never adjourned. Four members of the House were present, and two of the Senate. A committee was sent to the Governor to ascertain if he had any communication to make. The Governor replied that he had nothing to say, and did not recognize the meeting.

The racing over the Centreville course, yesterday, was of the very highest character. The four mile race was won by the celebrated Idlewild, in 7:34, beating the hitherto unequalled time of Flash, (7:32) in her memorable match against Boston over the Union Course, L.I., twenty-one years ago.

At the meeting of the Board of Councilmen, yesterday afternoon, a resolution was adopted that the grant to the New-York and Harlem Railroad

Company to lay a track on Broadway, Madison Avenue and other streets in this city, be annulled and rescinded. Councilmen Hayes, Haviland, Murray, Fitzgerald, Brady, Gross and Russell were appointed a Committee on the celebration of the Fourth of July.

Jacob Stuber, Peter Stuber, Wm. Greiner and Simon Snow were on the 23d, at Cleveland, indicted by the United States Grand Jury for conspiring to resist the Conscription Act, and for assaulting a United States officer.

The advance of the Rebel advance in Pennsylvania has had a disturbing effect upon the stock market, causing an improvement in gold and a decline in shares. Strangely enough, the market for Government securities continues firm, although not active. Nearly all descriptions of shares are lower, the fall ranging from 1 to 6 per cent. At the Second Board the market was irregular, but generally lower. At the 4 o'clock call the tone was rather stronger. The market for Government bonds was steady. The market for foreign bills has improved under the advance in gold, and Sterling is held at 150. Freight, as without much activity, and rates are without material change. The market for gold has been somewhat excited, and after opening at 144 it sold up to 145, closing at 145 1/2 bid.

On the Second page is an article on the relative merits of rifled and smooth-bore guns. Several Book Reviews appear on the same page.

## THE REBELS COMING NORTH.

All doubt seems at length to be dispelled with regard to the intentions of Gen. Lee. If he meant to draw Gen. Hooker into a premature passage of the Potomac, and then rush upon Washington from the West or South, he has been baffled, and has crossed the Potomac in force, and seems to be threatening an advance into the heart of Pennsylvania. We trust that is his real purpose—that he will not be diverted from it—that Gen. Hooker will maneuver so as to cover Washington and Baltimore and avoid a general engagement until the North can be aroused and armed, and that the Rebel's line of advance will be kept as narrow as possible by judicious dispositions and vigorous dashes and skirmishes until we shall be ready to deal a blow that shall be decisive. If Lee can conquer us, so be it! but if not, let him never recross the Potomac with more than the wreck of an army.

Men of the North! Pennsylvanians, Jersey-men, New-Yorkers, New-Englanders! the foe is at your doors! Are you true men or traitors? brave men or cowards? If you are patriots resolved and deserving to be free, prove it by universal rallying, arming and marching to meet the Rebel foe! Prove it NOW!

## LEE'S ADVANCE.

Reports of an advance northward by heavy columns of Rebel infantry are plentiful and positive, but not yet sufficiently exact to place any ascertained infantry force north of the Maryland border. A dispatch from Frederick asserts that Gen. Rhodes's division, 10,000 strong, left Hagerstown on Tuesday last. There is no further account of its progress. Gen. Johnson's division, of 12,000 infantry and 13 guns, is said on the same authority to have crossed the Potomac at Shepherdstown on Sunday; one-half of this, also, moving northward on Tuesday, by what road is not stated. The same telegram assures us that it is "generally believed" the greater part of Lee's army has crossed into Maryland since Friday. Who believes it, and why, we are not informed; but a later Washington dispatch reiterates the report. There is, however, as yet, no positive evidence that any part of Lee's army except Ewell's corps is north of the Potomac. It is none the less true that the movement of one corps, if continued, will be followed by the main army, within easy supporting distance of the advance.

The news of Rebel approaches by way of Shippensburg and Carlisle toward Harrisburg relates exclusively to the movements of cavalry. A very extensive foraging expedition is still in progress, and reaches a little westward in the direction of McConnellsburg, which place a force under Jenkins is said to have entered. On the other hand, Gen. Couch has credit for having sent a column down to Gettysburg. If it is anything more than a reconnaissance, we presume it is meant to hold the road from Chambersburg, whence Ewell, if he really is at the latter point, is far more likely to turn eastward than to advance directly upon Harrisburg. The destruction of the Northern Central Railroad, from Harrisburg to Baltimore, is an enterprise more important and feasible than the seizure of the capital of Pennsylvania.

It seems pretty clear from the dispatches of yesterday that the advance on Frederick from Hagerstown was prematurely reported. Such a movement would indicate either that Harper's Ferry was to be attacked, or that the real movement is to be directed, not against Harrisburg, or the Northern Central Railroad, but against Baltimore and its railway connection with Washington. The possession of Harper's Ferry, or, more properly speaking, Maryland Heights, which is the key to the whole position, is really essential to the complete occupation of the Shenandoah Valley, and its capture, if not the main, is undoubtedly an incidental, object of the Rebel maneuvers. Maryland Heights, however, can be held by ten thousand men against a hundred thousand, and this time, let us hope, it has a garrison that will make a real and not a sham defense. It is impossible that any General can be insane enough again to propose, as McClellan did formerly, that the post should be abandoned, or again to suffer it to be surrendered, as McClellan did, by the slowness and extreme timidity of his march to its relief.

If it is urged against the probability of the suggested movement upon the railways between Harrisburg, Baltimore, and Washington, that it is too hazardous, exposing flank and rear to assault, the answer is that Lee has just accomplished a march more extended, and in some respects more dangerous than this. From Frederickburg to Hagerstown is not less than

150 miles. The route by which Gen. Lee marched, exposed his flank at a dozen different points, yet he has reached the upper valley, not only without serious loss, which he could not reasonably have expected, but even without an effort at interruption by Gen. Hooker. The most perilous of military movements has been so successfully made that it seems not to have been suspected until it was nearly completed.

Whether Gen. Lee is aiming at one point or another, it is evident enough that he means to strike somewhere quickly, and that his columns are now so far advanced, that their direction and object must speedily be disclosed. He occupies a line which enables him to threaten many points simultaneously. Whichever he selects, it will need all the military resources of the Government and of the country to repel his attack.

## THE WAR AND THE UNION.

The National Intelligencer indulges in one of its monthly displays of verbosity, whereof the main object would seem to be a demonstration that its views of the Rebellion, its treatment and issues, are as widely divergent as possible from those of THE TRIBUNE. Could anybody else consume two columns in proving such a manifest truism? The Intelligencer at the outset did its very utmost to drive or drag the loyal States into purchasing peace of the Rebels by new renunciations of principle—new abasements at the footstool of the Slave Power—by new bargains to co-operate in the Extension of Slavery: THE TRIBUNE resisted, and the scheme was defeated. But the schemers were only baffled, not routed; and, from that hour to the present, the same end has been sedulously pursued under a thousand pretexts and disguises—always with THE Intelligencer for its advocate and THE TRIBUNE for its determined antagonist. To keep the Volunteers suddenly assembled at Washington in 1861 inactive, undrilled, useless; to thrust a mere fraction of them at length into collision with the concentrated force of the Rebels, and then blame the disaster thus shamefully incurred on those who had done their utmost to prevent it; to keep the great army thereafter assembled idle and ineffective to the latest possible minute, making enormous Expenditure, vast and rapidly swelling Debt, disordered Finances, and a depreciated Currency, the only results of the War; to intrust the Union armies to the conduct of Generals who never fight but where the enemy seems fit to attack them, and never follow up an advantage if they happen to achieve one—all this tends directly and palpably to the ends joyfully meditated by THE Intelligencer—an empty Treasury, a wearied, disgusted, discouraged People, and a debasing compromise whereby Slavery shall resume its subjugating march over our continent under the protection of our National flag. This is to-day, as it has ever been, the fond dream of every Copperhead who is not a Disunionist—and no one who knows anything of THE Intelligencer's lifelong relations to the Federal Treasury will accuse it of favoring Secession. It is nowise inclined to suicide—opposed, and will continue to oppose, any Union based on exaction on one side, humiliation on the other. If the Union benefits one section of our country to the injury of another, it ought not to continue, and we trust will not. If it is only to be preserved by bargain—by the agreement of any to do what they profoundly believe to be wrong—by the stifling of moral convictions at the beck of pecuniary interests—we pray that it may perish outright. But, profoundly believing that the re-establishment of the National authority, with the consequent overthrow and destruction of the traitorous Slave Power, is best for all—that the Rebellion is the work of an oligarchic faction that caught the South by the throat and by surprise and violence constrained her to serve their unshallow ambition—we are heart and soul absorbed in the Union cause, fervently hoping to hail the not distant day when the renovated South shall bless the names of those who routed her factious aristocracy and delivered her from the blighting curse of Slavery.

But we hate, as we have always hated, delay—procrastination—dawdling—indecision—or what Major Key, in explaining McClellan's refusal to improve his success at Antietam, innocently characterized as "the game." We believe, as we have always believed, in making war the absorbing business of the loyal States until it shall be finished—in calling out the whole Military strength, and employing all our loyal and zealous Generals until the Rebels are made to succumb; and we still insist that this may as well be effected in ninety days as in nine years. And if the loyal States cannot be made to wage the War in this spirit, we tell them now that they may just as well abandon it first as last; for the other mode of prosecuting it will never win. Such is, at least, our original, deliberate, steadfast conviction.

The Intelligencer says THE TRIBUNE confessed that it "had done very wrong" in urging the advance of the Union armies prior to the Bull Run disaster. As we have already had occasion to brand a similar assertion as a falsehood, we will only remind our cotemporary that we consider its repetition an act of exceeding baseness and hardihood. Its garbled citation from our article of Jan. 22d alk, wherein we urged such a method of striking and fighting as would end the war in ninety days, is as dishonest in spirit and intent, though not quite so palpably mendacious. But we will waste no more space on its knavish juggle.

## AN EARNEST WORD.

Our city is full of honorably discharged, patriotic soldiers, who have served their country faithfully and are ready to serve her again; but who tell us, some of them, that, though *mustered out of service, they are not paid, and cannot learn when they will be.* If this is the case even with one regiment, it is a crime for which some one should be held to a fearful reckoning. Every soldier who serves out his term of enlistment should be discharged at the earliest moment thereafter, and should always be paid in full when discharged. It is easy to

devise excuses for delay, but there is no good in them. Every dollar thus withheld from a discharged soldier is a lifeblood wrung from the heart of the Nation. We want these trained and tested soldiers to serve further; and paying them promptly, cheerfully, amply, and dismissing them with a word of thanks and blessing, is the sure way to secure their readjustment when required, and their influence and aid to enlist others.

Whose business is it to see that every regiment is mustered out as promptly as possible, and *never mustered out without being paid?* Give us a chance to put the saddle on the right horse! He shall feel it!

## COME TO THE POINT!

There is a political organization known as the Democracy or Democratic party of the State of New-York, which formally professes loyalty to the Constitution and Government of the United States, and to favor and support a vigorous prosecution of the War for the Union. This organization professes—no matter now for the consistency—to be in fellowship with the Democratic party which in Connecticut last Spring ran Thomas H. Seymour for Governor of that State, and in Ohio is now supporting Vallandigham. It has, moreover, an organ in our city known as *The World*, wherein it has expended good money, and which is a voluble, specious, glib-tongued sort of journal.

So long ago as Monday last, we called said organ's attention to the platform recently put forth as Democratic by very large Conventions held last week in Pennsylvania and in Illinois, wherein the former distinctly avers that Mr. Lincoln's Administration *arouses and proclaims* that it is no longer prosecuting the War for the maintenance of the Constitution and restoration of the Union; while the latter opposes "the further offensive prosecution of the War" against the Slaveholding Rebels as tending to "subvert the Constitution and Government," and calls for a National Convention to secure "Peace upon the basis of a restoration of the Union."

We once more ask this Democratic organ to say frankly,

1. Whether the Democracy of New-York fellowships and approves the above positions of the Democracy of Pennsylvania and of Illinois;
2. Whether it upholds as true the assertion that the Federal Administration *arouses and proclaims* that it is no longer fighting the Southern Rebels in behalf of the Union and the Constitution;
3. Whether it does or does not justify the clear implication of the Illinois Democracy that, by simply ceasing to prosecute the War, we may secure "Peace upon the basis of a restoration of the Union;" and
4. Whether, if it be false that a restoration of the Union may thus be secured, and that our Government *arouses and proclaims* its purpose in prosecuting the War to be other than that of reestablishing the supremacy of the Constitution and Union, they are not *wicked, perilous*, and (in the present condition of our country) *unpatriotic* to meet squarely the issue thus made up? Is not one week time enough wherein to screw up its courage to the sticking-point? or must we hunt it through another? If it now answers only by a vague chattering about matters utterly irrelevant and inconsequent, we shall understand that it dare not face the music.

Col. WILLIAM WILSON of the Sixth New-York Volunteers (*Zouaves*) was one of the very first to volunteer for the defense of the Union, raising a regiment that has served out its full term and just been discharged. He is again in the field asking authority to raise a brigade, and we hope he may have that or such other as may be deemed best. We need every true and tried soldier in the field forthwith, and trust all will be encouraged to do their best.

LORENZO SHERWOOD, esq., late of Texas, will address the Women's Loyal National League, this (Friday) afternoon, at 3 o'clock, at their room, No. 30 Cooper Institute.

## The Fifth Massachusetts Regiment Home-ward Bound.

Boston, Mass., Thursday, June 25, 1863. The steamers Guide and Convey, with the 5th Massachusetts Regiment on board, passed Wood's Hole at 8 o'clock this morning, for Boston.

## From San Francisco.

Special Dispatch to the Merchants' Exchange News Room. San Francisco, Thursday, June 25, 1863. Merchants continue to show a disposition to increase their stocks, consequently there is a better demand for staple goods at old prices, with a small advance in a few articles. Candies and coal oil all higher. Butter is a drug.

## Vermont Democratic State Convention.

MONTPELIER, Vt., Thursday, June 25, 1863. The Democratic State Convention will be held in this place to-morrow. The weather is fine, and appearances indicate a pretty full attendance. Jas. Brooks and other New-York gentlemen are advertised to speak. It is judged this evening that the nominees of the Convention will be as follows: For Governor, the Hon. Timothy P. Redfield of Montpelier; for Lieutenant Governor, E. A. Chapin, esq., of Rutland; for Treasurer, R. Mc K. Ormsby of Bradford.

## The National Finances.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, June 25, 1863. The General Subscription Agent reports the sale to-day of \$1,422,561 five-twentieths by the various agencies in the loyal States. Bonds are being delivered to June 1. The uncertainty which still surrounds the Rebel movements in Pennsylvania and Maryland has the effect of lessening the volume of sales, but the number of local subscriptions is peculiarly gratifying.

BURNSIDE.—The *Louisville Journal*, on becoming acquainted with Gen. Burnside, is constrained to set the following judgment upon the flood of abuse poured out upon him:

"Burnside looks and acts like a great man; and the manner in which he has managed the affairs of this Department shows him to be a statesman as well as a General. The more we see of Burnside the more we like him. He has done much for Kentucky. His order No. 38 has worked like a charm, and has given peace, quiet and security to many portions of the State which have been invaded by Rebel sympathizers and marauders. Previous to its publication, many parts of the State were invaded by Morgan's men and other Rebels, whose presence brought fear and terror, but since the enforcement of that order there are none to be found within our lines, except a few desperate characters who come and go secretly, to act the spy—and those are caught whenever found and executed."

## FROM JAPAN.

An English Squadron in Yedo Bay—Retreat Demanded for Late Offense—Ultimatum to the Japanese Government—Twenty Days Given for an Answer—Retaliation Threatened—The Tycoon has Gone to Hiro—Great Council of Damios Assembled There—An Outbreak Imminent. From Our Special Correspondent.

KANAGAWA, April 14, 1863. The all-engrossing topic for a few days past has been the demand of the English Government on the Tycoon for reparation for the murder of the English sentries at the Legation in Yedo in June last, and for the attack on a party of Englishmen on the Tokaido in September last, when Mr. Richardson was killed and two others severely wounded.

Three weeks since Rear-Admiral Kuper, Commanding-in-Chief of her Majesty's naval forces in the China Sea, arrived at Yokohama in the *Euryalus*, escorted by three other war steamers. Since that time there have been accessions to the squadron, till now there lie in our harbor eleven men-of-war, several of which are large and powerful steamers. Several others are daily expected, as Admiral Kuper has ordered all the available force on the East Asiatic coast to follow him hither.

On the 6th inst. a formal demand was made at Yedo on the Ministers for Foreign Affairs in the Tycoon's Court for full and ample redress for past outrages. All that has been made known to the public of the nature of these demands is contained in a letter addressed by Col. St. John Neale, the English Chargé d'Affaires, to the English Consul, requesting him to communicate to the British residents the grave position of affairs. This letter, together with the one addressed by the English Consul to the residents under his charge, I inclose:

YOKOHAMA, April 8, 1863.

Sir: I have already made known to you the report of a note I have this day presented to the Japanese Government, containing a declaration of grievances and unrequited outrages, of which British subjects have been the victims and sufferers, and for which, under instructions from her Majesty's Government, I have demanded a specific reparation within a noted period of time.

The attack upon her Majesty's Legation at Yedo, on the 26th of June last, when two of the guard of H. M. S. *Resolute* were brutally murdered, and the subsequent barbarous murder of Mr. Richardson, on the 14th of September, and murderous assault committed on the same occasion upon a lady and two other gentlemen British subjects, are special outrages of which reparation is now demanded.

That reparation comprises the trial and capital execution of the murderers of Mr. Richardson, a heavy pecuniary penalty on Japan for that offense and a considerable compensation for the sufferers or their surviving relatives.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the Government of the Tycoon, influenced by wise and just reflections, will yield a ready compliance to the demands thus rendered necessary by these unpardonable and outrageous acts.

On the other hand, in the possible contingency which exists of the Japanese Government refusing to accede to those demands, or hoping to evade them by futile arguments or procrastination, it becomes my duty to apprise you of the inevitable adoption in such an event of coercive measures by the Rear-Admiral Commanding-in-Chief of H. M. S. *Resolute* and two other gentlemen British subjects, are special outrages of which reparation is now demanded.

Under such circumstances I have to instruct you to call a meeting of the British residents within your consular jurisdiction, or of a Committee appointed by them, and make known to them the purport of this dispatch, with a view that her Majesty's subjects may individually adopt such precautionary measures for the safeguard of their commercial interests, and for the defense of their persons and property, as may be deemed expedient in the event of an outbreak upon the several settlements during the continuance of coercive operations, the Rear-Admiral Commanding-in-Chief of H. M. S. *Resolute*, will very shortly propose to concert with the Diplomatic Agents and Naval Commanders of Foreign States on the spot, respecting the adoption of such combined arrangements as may be practicable and expedient.

I have to request you to communicate the purport of this dispatch to your colleagues the Consuls of friendly nations residing at Kanagawa-Yokohama with the least possible delay.

E. ST. JOHN NEALE.

Her Majesty's Consul does not deem it necessary to introduce the communication the purport of which he is directed to impart to the community by any lengthened statement.

All her Majesty's subjects in this country are aware of the grave and fatal consequences which took place on the 26th of June, and 14th September last.

These have naturally engaged the serious attention of the Government, and her Majesty has directed her Charge d'Affaires to demand in her name such reparation and redress as the gravity of the offenses and outrages requires. (Here reads a letter from her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires.)

I request you will particularly take notice that the object of her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires in directing me to acquaint you with the tenor of his dispatch is to enable British subjects to take such timely measures of prudence and precaution in reference to their commercial and individual interests as they may consider the circumstances require them to adopt.

The Admiral proposes to concert with the Chiefs of the other Foreign Nations such arrangements as may tend best to secure the safety of the settlement.

It is especially my duty in the grave state of our relations with the Government of this country to impress upon you in the plainest terms the expediency and necessity of observing the greatest circumspection and caution in your intercourse with the natives of all ranks and classes to avoid all acts which may lead to complications likely to render still more difficult the position of those intrusted with the control of her Majesty's affairs in this country, and by the exercise of a discreet and cautious conduct to avoid all occasions of unnecessary exposure to personal risk.

I have only to state that the foregoing contains all the material information which, under present circumstances, it can possibly be in the power of her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires to furnish to make them acquainted with. The whole question is to be finally decided upon the spot, and the decision will be made as early as possible, and the result will be communicated to you as soon as the same may be practicable, will be an object of anxious solicitude.

CHARLES A. WINDHAM, Esq., H. M. Consul.

The ultimatum was delivered on the 6th inst., and the threatened day rapidly approaches, when, if the demands be not complied with, our little settlement will be exposed to all the chances of war. There are no indications as yet of what the result will be. The native people about us thus far express only the greatest indifference to the matter; they do not seem to believe that any serious difficulty will occur, let the Tycoon reply as he may. While not so concerned as the Chinese, they have yet ample confidence in the power of their chiefs and princes. Meetings of the foreign merchants and residents have been held to take into consideration our exposed condition and our means of defense. Not a few are apprehensive that the Japanese, whose ancient cunning and treachery is in mind, may take the initiative before the twenty days are out, and attempt a surprise of the foreign settlement. And Admiral Kuper, who has advised the ladies to seek a place of greater safety—that is, the shipping—or to leave the country altogether, yet does not so much as land a night patrol.

It is unfortunate that at this juncture the Tycoon and the chief officers of his court are absent, they having departed on the long contemplated visit to the Mikado at Miaco, a fortnight since. This visit of the Tycoon to the Spiritual Emperor, where, at the same time, there is to be a great gathering of the most powerful Daimios of the realm, is one of vast importance to the future of Japan. For many years there has been no such assemblage of the country's Chiefs, and we may expect that many conflicting interests will be reconciled or expand into open acts of hostility. The internal and external relations of the country will be more firmly established, or all the land will be ablaze with the fires of civil war. These are the alternatives, and we wait anxiously

the result of the Miaco meeting, as well as Admiral Kuper's demands, the latter, no doubt, giving new intensity to the counsels of the former. The volcanoes which smolder Nippon has so long been resting is either to be quenched forever or burst out into magnificent violence. No longer any treacherous smoldering.

Should the Admiral fail to get satisfaction at Yedo, it is rumored that he will take his fleet to Osaka, seventeen miles from Miaco, and demand redress of the assembled powers of the realm, where Tycoon, Mikado and Daimios will be together, and there shall be no shuffling of responsibility from one portion to another of this tripartite power in the rulership of Japan. Or, as say others, he will go to Kugosima, the capital of great Satsuma, whose loge it was that did the foul deeds of the 14th of September, and demand the assassins from under the guns of his hereditary castle, or wreak his vengeance there.

Such are the courses open to him truly, but my own belief is, that before the twenty days have expired, the Japanese Government will give either a complying answer in part, or make such reasons for further delay that the Admiral will be compelled, by "a decent regard for the opinions of mankind," to consider them before taking his "coercive measures." Otherwise, Japanese shrewdness and diplomacy will, for the first time, have failed of carrying its end. They can, too, in honest faith, not diplomatic cunning, give an answer which will demand a hearing and an answer other than at the cannon's mouth. Though Admiral Kuper is said by his countrymen to be ambitious of winning his knightly spurs, he must in this nineteenth century win them in a knightly way, if he would wear them with knightly honor.

We calmly await the issue of the twenty days, and their event of peace or desolating war to a people who, for three centuries have known the blessings of unbroken peace. Not less anxiously do we wait for the results to ourselves and our property, for on us and our property would fall such blows as the Japanese may have given.

The Wyoming is soon expected, and will be loudly welcomed at this crisis. The French have two war steamers here, and the Dutch two. A part of the Russian Asiatic Squadron is looked for, so that the corps of observation will be full.

## Agricultural Prospects.

As a general thing the agricultural prospects of America are flattering—as much so now, June 26, as they have been at any previous date. In small districts the drouth has been so severe that some of the Spring crops and grass are seriously injured. For instance, the Long Island farmers believe now that the hay crop will not be more than half the average. In the counties north of the city, it will certainly be very short, only one heavy shower having fallen in six weeks, and that not sufficient to wet through the soil. In Dutchess county, some farmers talk of plowing up old fields and sowing buckwheat. In Columbia county the rains have fallen seasonably. So it is in the interior of the State. One place the whole talk is, "this terrible drouth." In the next county, perhaps, there is no complaint. The wheat is spoken of as promising everywhere in New-York. Around this city the drouth has seriously affected the supply of garden vegetables and strawberries. Cherries and currants will be abundant.

At the West the prospect of grain crops is mixed. In some parts of Michigan the prospect of everything is spoken of in growing terms, while in others it is quite the reverse.

It is the same in Ohio, though the tone of late is more cheerful, copious rains having fallen upon the western slopes.

In Missouri, the prospect never was more favorable. Some part of Illinois has suffered severely by drouth, to the permanent injury of Spring wheat, which is the staple crop.

Of the West, generally, we think we may say the prospects are exceedingly favorable.

In St. Louis new wheat has already made its appearance in market, showing a very plump, fine berry.

In Southern Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, the harvest is at hand, and the matter of a full crop well assured. It is nearly so in States further North.

The prospect of price is favorable also, for the last reports from England do not look as well for American farmers as they do for American. The *Mark Lane Express* of June 5, says:

"Although during the greater part of the past week there were frequent indications of rain, very little fell, and such a want began seriously to affect the Spring corn, and still more the grass, which on high soils gave signs of a very small crop of hay. With some rain, however, on Friday afternoon, and an abundance afterward, should this only be general a fair crop may yet be gathered, especially in the cold and backward lands. Even Wheat, in certain localities, required moisture, though on strong deep loams it has continued to work well. The irregularity of the season, and especially the late frosts, have not been without damaging effects on the Continent. The North of Italy is reported seriously to have suffered by the fluctuations of temperature, and prices have rather advanced in Piedmont. Hungary also is said to have suffered from drouth, and though anticipations were generally favorable in Russia and Northern Europe, prices have been hardening of late, and the adverse countries, by being forward can hardly be expected to be heavy, and when the importance of this grain is considered as the staple of Germany, Sweden, and other countries, the lower sorts of Wheat must be rendered more valuable, in case of failure. As to prices here, they have remained without change, while the Continent notes some enhancement, and should the reports of extensive injury by frost to the forward Wheat here be confirmed, it will be unlikely that prices should go much lower. In America, however, the weather has been very favorable, and with increasing receipts in New-York, dull accounts from Europe, and the war of uncertain issue and duration, because of a somewhat fallen in value."

How strange it is that John Bull will persist that the issue of the war is uncertain, and that controls the wheat market. It is not that that affects the wheat market; it is the prospect of the growing crop, which is now such as to assure us of plenty of bread, in spite of war.

Accounts from other parts of Europe, are briefly these:

The lowness of the rivers in several parts of France has made the manufacture of flour more limited, and prices have consequently somewhat improved. Oats in consequence of the continued dry weather, were rather higher.

More warmth and rain were wanted in Holland, though no serious complaints were as yet made. The averages as Antwerp show a slight gain in wheat and rye.